OCEAN CLIMATE SUMMIT Monitoring the Pulse of the Ocean

Climate-Driven Changes to Ocean Water Properties



Coastal Upwelling Process Cold waters from ocean depths; Water moving offshore due to Coriolis effect upwelled waters are enriched. ... high nutrients Wind from SST data from satellite ... high carbon dioxide ... low oxygen Nitrate vs Temperature 40 ... low pH 35 30 25 Nitrate, µM/I 20 15 10 5 0 12 7 8 9 10 11 13 14 Temperature, °C Dever et al 2006

Ecosystem Response

High-nutrient waters upwelled into euphotic zone near the coast – phytoplankton bloom develops as surface water advected offshore in Ekman layer.

shelf width, W



Photo of newly upwelled waters, Cape Town (South Africa)



Upwelling & Phytoplankton Vary "Synoptic Variability" ... upwelling and relaxation events



HF radar data on currents SST and Chl from satellite



What do we expect? What is the typical pattern?

5-year average data of surface data from satellite

TEMPERATURE

CHLOROPHYLL



What do we expect? What is the typical pattern?



5-year average data of surface data from satellite

What to expect ... seasonal climatology vs latitude Surface chlorophyll concentration (pelagic habitat)



Garcia-Reyes & Largier 2012 Monthly average data on surface chlorophyll from satellite

Seasonal climatology of wind and temperature.



-atitude (⁰N)

N26+ N12+

-124





Monthly average data on winds and SST from moored buoys But, the times are a-changin ... CLIMATE CHANGE

Greenhouse gas emissions

Surface warming, stratification, deoxygenation ...

 $\bigcirc O_2$ invasion, ocean acidification ...

Intensification of upwelling

Dand runoff (via San Francisco Bay) ... and parallel locally driven changes in runoff, plastics, etc.

Many Changes in the Ocean

Sanctuary "Climate Change Impacts" ... Largier et al (2010)

Physical Effects of Climate Change

Changes in sea level, temperature, precipitation, runoff, winds, waves, ocean pH, ...

Responses in Biological Processes

Changes in physiology, distributions, timing, connectivity, ...

Responses in Marine Organisms

Changes for specific marine populations – multiple influences on each

Responses in Ecological Communities

Changes for specific habitat – multiple influences & multiple interacting species



Focus #1. Upwelling Intensification 3-decade trend of increased upwelling ... stronger winds & more upwelling days & colder water



Garcia-Reyes & Largier 2010

Plankton Productivity vs Upwelling Upwelling trade-off ... nutrients vs export Too much of a good thing?



Plankton Productivity vs Transport Fat copepods imported by alongshore transport when winds are strong





Fontana et al (2015): ACCESS boat-based sampling of zooplankton.

Focus #2. Deoxygenation

Hypoxic waters upwell to coast during wind events, but this is new ... shoaling of OMZ & intensified upwelling.



The West Coast Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Science Panel

Focus #3. Ocean Acidification

Upwelling of enriched waters – now more enriched!

... stronger upwelling, digging deeper

... increased CO₂ when last at surface (decades ago)

... changes in respiration/decomposition along aphotic pathway ... local effects

Plot of pH levels – Ω ~1 at pH~7.7



Feely et al 2008

The West Coast Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Science Panel

Focus #3. Ocean Acidification Not just pH ... changing carbonate chemistry.

Affects shell-forming organisms (e.g., pteropods & oysters)



Aragonite saturation used to quantify carbonate
availability $\Omega > 1$ shells can form $\Omega < 1$ difficult to form shellsThere are several OA measures: pH, Ω , pCO₂, alkalinity ...

Spatial pattern – ocean vs coast; upwelling centers **Temporal pattern** – upwelling season & events Temperature plots give an idea of patterns of exposure

Climate Trends and Climate Fluctuations

Long-term **climate trends**: ocean acidification, deoxygenation, upwelling intensification, offshore/bay warming – plus ...

Climate fluctuations

El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO)
Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO)
North Pacific Gyre Oscillation (NPGO)

And climate anomaly "events" •Delayed upwelling in 2005 •NE Pacific "warm blob" 2014-15



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